

Atty. Dkt. No. 078883-0166

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Stephen RICHMOND et al.
Title: ANIMAL CELL COLONY PICKING APPARATUS AND METHOD
Appl. No.: 10/631,845
Filing Date: 08/01/2003
Examiner: Nathan Andrew Bowers
Art Unit: 1744
Confirmation No. 1041

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A first Statement of Substance of Interview, fully responsive to the Interview Summary dated April 2, 2007, was filed on April 27, 2007, in accordance to 37 C.F.R. § 1.133, and therefore no extension of time is believed necessary. This supplemental record of the substance of the interview is being filed to revise the language of the first statement of substance of interview, and to make of record a phone interview with Examiner Nathan Andrew Bowers held on May 2, 2007, regarding the above-captioned application.

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In the interview held on March 28, 2007, with Examiners Nathan Andrew Bowers and William Beisner, claims 1 and 10 were discussed and an agreement with respect to these claims and respective dependent claims was reached. It was agreed that the current pending claims are allowable pending any additional search and a minor amendment that will change the phrase "offset from the base of the sample container" in claims 1 and 10 with the phrase "offset from the animal cell colonies", such that it is clear that the hollow pin does not come in contact with the animal cell colonies during the picking procedure. Dependent claims 23-32 will also be amended to specify that the offset distance range is between the base of the container and the distal end of the pin. If, as expected, the additional search reveals no applicable prior art, Applicants will submit a supplemental amendment to amend the claims as described above, and the application will be allowed.

In a phone interview held on May 2, 2007, a proposed Examiner's amendment to claims 1 and 10 was discussed and an agreement with regard to these claims and respective dependent claims was reached. The Examiner notified Applicants' representative that the claims, as amended by Examiner's amendment, are allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 4, 2007By Liliana Di Nola-Baron

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